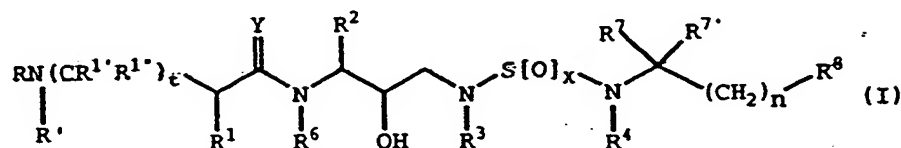


# IN THE CLAIMS:

Claim 1 (Original) A compound represented by the formula:



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, prodrug or ester thereof wherein:

R represents hydrogen, alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, cycloalkyl, aryl, aralkyl, alkoxy carbonyl, alkoxy carbonyl, aryloxyalkyl, heteroaryloxyalkyl, aralkoxy carbonyl, alkyl carbonyl, cycloalkyl carbonyl, cycloalkyl alkoxy carbonyl, cycloalkyl kanoyl, alkanoyl, aralkanoyl, aroyl, aryloxy carbonyl, aryloxy carbonyl alkyl, aryloxy alkanoyl, heterocyclyl carbonyl, heterocyclyloxy carbonyl, heterocyclyl alkanoyl, heterocyclyl alkoxy carbonyl, heteroaralkanoyl, heteroaralkoxy carbonyl, heteroaryloxy carbonyl, heteroaroyl, hydroxyalkyl, aminocarbonyl, aminoalkanoyl, and mono- and disubstituted aminocarbonyl and mono- and disubstituted aminoalkanoyl radicals wherein the substituents are selected from alkyl, aryl, aralkyl, cycloalkyl, cycloalkyl alkyl, heteroaryl, heteroaralkyl, heterocycloalkyl, heterocycloalkyl radicals, or wherein said aminocarbonyl and aminoalkanoyl radicals are disubstituted, said substituents along with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached form a heterocycloalkyl or heteroaryl radical;

R' represents hydrogen, radicals as defined for R<sup>3</sup> or R "SO<sub>2</sub>- wherein R" represents radicals as defined for R<sup>3</sup>; or R and R' together with the nitrogen to which they are attached represent heterocycloalkyl and heteroaryl radicals;

R<sup>1</sup> represents hydrogen, -CH<sub>2</sub>C(O)NHCH<sub>3</sub>, -C(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub> (SH), -C(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>(SCH<sub>3</sub>), -C(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>(S[O]CH<sub>3</sub>), -C(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>(S[O]<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>), alkyl, haloalkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl and cycloalkyl radicals,

and amino acid side chains selected from asparagines, S-methyl cysteine and methionine and the sulfoxide (SO) and sulfone (SO<sub>2</sub>) derivatives thereof, isoleucine, allo-isoleucine, alanine, leucine, tert-leucine, phenylalanine, ornithine, histidine, norleucine, glutamine, threonine, glycine, allo-threonine, serine, o-alkyl serine, aspartic acid, beta-cyanoalanine and valine side chains;

R<sup>1</sup> and R<sup>1''</sup> independently represent hydrogen and radicals as define for R<sup>1</sup>, or one of R<sup>1'</sup> and R<sup>1''</sup>, together with R<sup>1</sup> and the carbon atoms to which R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>1'</sup> and R<sup>1''</sup> are attached, represent a cycloalkyl radical;

R<sup>2</sup> represents alkyl, aryl, cycloalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl and aralkyl radicals, which radicals are optionally substituted with a group selected from alkyl and halogen radials, -NO<sub>2</sub>, -CN, -CF<sub>3</sub>, -OR<sup>9</sup> and -SR<sup>9</sup>, wherein R<sup>9</sup> represents hydrogen and alkyl radicals, and halogen radicals;

R<sup>3</sup> represents alkyl, haloalkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, hydroxyalkyl, alkoxyalkyl, cycloalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl, heterocycloalkyl, heteroaryl, heterocycloalkylalkyl, aryl, aralkyl, heteroaralkyl, aminoalkyl and mono- and disubstituted aminoalkyl radicals, wherein said substituents are selected from alkyl, aryl, aralkyl, cycloalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl, heteroaryl, heteroaralkyl, heterocycloalkyl, and heterocycloalkylalkyl radicals, or in the case of a disubstituted aminoalkyl radical, said substituents along with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached, form a heterocycloalkyl or a heteroaryl radical, and thioalkyl, alkylthioalkyl and arylthioalkyl radicals and the sulfone and sulfoxide derivatives thereof;

R<sup>4</sup> represents hydrogen and radicals as defined by R<sup>3</sup>;

R<sup>6</sup> represents hydrogen and alkyl radicals;

R<sup>7</sup> and R<sup>7'</sup> independently represent hydrogen and radicals as defined for R<sup>3</sup>; amino acid side chains selected from the group consisting of valine, isoleucine, glycine, alanine, allo-isoleucine,

asparagines, leucine, glutamine, and t-butylglycine; radicals represented by the formulas  $-C(O)R^{16}$ ,  $-CO_2R^{16}$ ,  $-SR^{16}$ ,  $-CONR^{16}R^{17}$ ,  $-CF_3$  and  $-NR^{16}R^{17}$ ; or  $R^{17}$  together with the carbon atom to which they are attached form a cycloalkyl radical;

$R^8$  represents cyano, hydroxyl, alkyl, alkoxy, cycloalkyl, aryl, aralkyl, heterocycloalkyl and heteroaryl radicals and radicals represented by the formulas  $C(O)R^{16}$ ,  $CO_2R^{16}$ ,  $SO_2R^{16}$ ,  $SR^{16}$ ,  $CONR^{16}R^{17}$ ,  $CF_3$  and  $NR^{16}R^{17}$ ;

wherein  $R^{16}$  and  $R^{17}$  independently represent hydrogen and radicals as defined for  $R^3$ , or  $R^{16}$  and  $R^{17}$  together with a nitrogen to which they are attached in the formula  $NR^{16}R^{17}$  represent heterocycloalkyl and heteroaryl radicals;

x represents 1 or 2;

n represents an integer of from 0 to 6;

t represents either 0, 1 or 2; and

y represents O, S and  $NR^{15}$  wherein  $R^{15}$  represents hydrogen and radicals as defined for  $R^3$ .

Claims 2-42 (Canceled)